

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A method for analyzing of speech, the method comprising the steps of:

- inputting of a speech signal,
- obtaining of the first harmonic of the speech signal,
- determining of the phase-difference ($\Delta\phi$) between the speech signal and the first harmonic.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, the determination of the phase difference comprising the steps of:

- determining the location of a maximum of the speech signal,
- determining the phase difference between the maximum and phase zero of the first harmonic of the speech signal.

3. (currently amended) The method of ~~claims 1 or 2~~claim 1, whereby the speech signal is a diphone signal.

4. (original) A method for synthesizing speech, the method comprising the steps of:

- selecting of windowed diphone samples, the diphone samples being windowed by a window function being centered with respect to a

phase angle which is determined by a phase difference between a speech signal and the first harmonic of the speech signal,

- concatenating the selected windowed diphone samples.

5. (original) The method of claim 4, the speech signal being a diphone signal.

6. (currently amended) The method of ~~claims 4 or 5~~claim 4, the window function being a raised cosine or a triangular window.

7. (currently amended) The method of ~~anyone of claims 4, 5 or 6~~claim 4 further comprising inputting of information being indicative of diphones and a pitch contour, the information forming the basis for selecting of the windowed diphone samples.

8. (currently amended) The method of ~~anyone of the preceding claims 4 to 7~~claim 4, whereby the information is provided from a language processing module of a text-to-speech system.

9. (currently amended) The method of ~~anyone of the preceding claims 4 to 8~~claim 4 further comprising:

- inputting of speech,

- windowing the speech by means of the window function to obtain the windowed diphone samples.

10. (currently amended) A computer program product for performing a method in accordance with ~~anyone of the preceding claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1.

11. (original) A speech analysis device comprising:

- means for inputting of a speech signal,
- means for obtaining the first harmonic of the speech signal,
- means for determining the phase difference ($\Delta\phi$) between the speech signal and the first harmonic.

12. (original) The speech analysis device of claim 11, the means for determining the phase difference being adapted to determine a maximum of the speech signal and to determine a phase zero (ϕ_0) of the speech signal in order to determine the phase difference between the maximum of the speech signal and the phase zero.

13. (currently amended) The speech analysis device of ~~claims 11 or 12~~ claim 11, wherein the speech signal is a diphone signal.

14. (original) A speech synthesis device comprising:

- means for selecting of windowed diphone samples, the diphone samples being windowed by a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle which is determined by a phase difference between a speech signal and the first harmonic of the speech signal,
- means for concatenating the selected windowed diphone signals.

15. (original) The speech synthesis device of claim 14, wherein the speech signal is a diphone signal.

16. (currently amended) The speech synthesis device of ~~claims 14 or 15~~ claim 14 the window function being a raised cosine or a triangular window.

17. (currently amended) The speech synthesis device of ~~any one of the claims 14, 15 or 16~~ claim 14 further comprising means for inputting of information being indicative of diphones and a pitch contour, the means for selecting the windowed diphones being adapted to perform the selection based on the information.

18. (original) A text-to-speech system comprising:

- language processing means for providing of information being indicative of diphones and a pitch contour,
- speech synthesis means comprising means for selecting of windowed diphone samples based on the information, the diphone samples being windowed by a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle which is determined by a phase difference between a speech signal and a first harmonic of the speech signal and means for concatenating the selected windowed diphone samples.

19. (original) The text-to-speech system of claim 18, whereby the window function is a raised cosine or a triangular window.

20. (original) A speech processing system comprising:
- means for inputting of a signal comprising natural speech signal,
 - means for windowing the natural speech signal by means of a window function being centered with respect to a phase angle which is determined by a phase difference between a speech signal and the first harmonic of the speech signal to provide windowed diphone samples,
 - means for processing of the windowed diphone samples,
- means for concatenating the selected windowed diphone samples.